

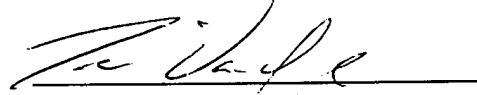
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and

This application is a continuation-in-part of application serial numbers 09/191,232, filed on November 13, 1998, pending; and of 09/378,527, filed on August 20, 1999, pending; and of 09/390,174 filed on September 7, 1999, pending; the priority of all of which is claimed herein under 35 U.S.C. Section 120.”

Remarks

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested. Applicants assert that all pending claims are in consideration for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any aspect of this Preliminary Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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